

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims and replaces all earlier listings and all earlier versions.

1. (Currently Amended) A print control method for controlling a printing apparatus to print, comprising:

a converting step of converting a print command issued from an application into intermediate data;

a saving step of saving the intermediate data converted in said converting step ~~to be printed~~ in a storage unit together with the designated number of ~~sets of~~ copies;

a discrimination step of discriminating if a print instruction is a test print instruction;

a generating step of generating data for test print for which the number of copies to be printed is set to one in accordance with the intermediate data saved in said saving step ~~a change step of changing the number of sets of copies to 1~~ when the print instruction is the test print instruction; and

an output step of outputting the data for test print generated in said generating step ~~saved in the storage unit to the printing apparatus together with the number of sets of copies in response to the printing apparatus instruction; and~~

a re-generating step of re-generating data for printing based on the intermediate data saved in said saving step in accordance with an operating instruction after the data for test print is output in said output step.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising a delete step of deleting the data output in the output step from the storage unit when the print instruction is not the test print instruction.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of decreasing the number of sets of copies output in a test print process from the designated number of sets of copies, when the print instruction is the test print instruction.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~wherein the data stored in the storage unit is intermediate data before being converted into a format to be output to the printing apparatus, and said method further comprising~~ comprises the a change step of changing a setup of an output appearance associated with the intermediate data saved in the storage unit after the data for test print is output in the output step, ~~when the print instruction is the test print instruction.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, further ~~comprising a change step of changing a setup associated with the data saved in the storage unit after the data is output in the output step, when the print instruction is the test print instruction, and the a~~ step of resetting the designated number of sets of copies for test print to an original value when the setup of the output appearance has been changed in the change step.

6. (Original) A print control apparatus for controlling a printing apparatus to print, comprising:

a spooler that saves data to be printed together with the designated number of sets of copies; and

a spool file manager that checks if a print instruction is a test print instruction, that changes the number of sets of copies to 1 when the print instruction is the test print instruction, and outputs the data saved in the spooler to the printing apparatus together with the number of sets of copies to be printed in response to the print instruction.

7. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein when the print instruction is not the test print instruction, said spool file manager deletes the output data from said spooler.

8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein when the print instruction is not the test print instruction, said spool file manager decreases the number of sets of copies output in a test print process from the designated number of sets of copies after said spool file manager outputs the data.

9. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the data stored in said spooler is intermediate data before being converted into a format to be output to the printing apparatus, and when the print instruction is the test print instruction, said

spool file manager changes a setup associated with the data saved in said spooler after said spool file manager outputs the data.

10. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said spool file manager changes the number of sets of copies associated with the data saved in said spooler after said spool file manager outputs the data when the print instruction is the test print instruction, and resets the number of sets of copies to the designated number of sets of copies when the print instruction is not the test print instruction and when the number of sets of copies has been changed.

11. (Original) A print system which is constructed by connecting a print control apparatus of claim 6 and a printing apparatus and prints based on data output from output step of said print control apparatus.

12. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium storing a computer program for making a computer to execute a print control method for controlling a printing apparatus, said method comprising the steps of:

converting a print command issued from an application into intermediate data;

saving the intermediate data converted in said converting step to be printed together with ~~the~~ a designated number of ~~sets of~~ copies;

discriminating if a print instruction is a test print instruction;

generating data for test print for which the number of copies to be printed is set to one in accordance with the intermediate data saved in said saving step ~~changing the number of sets of copies to 1~~ when the print instruction is the test print instruction; and
outputting the data for test print generated in said generating step saved in said saving step to the printing apparatus together with the number of sets of copies in response to the printing apparatus instruction; and
re-generating data for printing based on the intermediate data saved in said saving step in accordance with an operating instruction after the data for test print is output in said output step.

13. (Original) The medium according to claim 12, wherein said method further comprises a step of deleting the data output by said output step from said saving step when the print instruction is not the test print instruction.

14. (Original) The medium according to claim 12, wherein said method further comprises a step of decreasing the number of sets of copies output in a test print process from the designated number of sets of copies, when the print instruction is the test print instruction.

15. (Currently Amended) The medium according to claim 12, ~~wherein the data stored in said saving step is intermediate data before being converted into a format to be output to the printing apparatus, and said method further comprises~~ comprising a step

of changing a setup of an output appearance associated with the intermediate data saved in said saving step after the data for test print is output in said outputting step ~~outputs the data,~~
~~when the print instruction is the test print instruction.~~

16. (Currently Amended) The medium according to claim 15, wherein said method further comprises ~~a step of changing a setup associated with the data saved in said saving step after said outputting step outputs the data, when the print instruction is the test print instruction,~~ and a step of resetting the ~~designated~~ number of ~~sets of~~ copies for test print to an original value when the setup of the output appearance has been changed in said changing step.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer program for making a computer to execute a print control method for controlling a printing apparatus, said program comprising the processing steps of:

converting a print command issued from an application into intermediate data;

saving the intermediate data converted in said converting step to be printed together with ~~the~~ a designated number of ~~sets of~~ copies;

discriminating if a print instruction is a test print instruction;

generating data for test print for which the number of copies to be printed is set to one in accordance with the intermediate data saved in said saving step ~~changing the number of sets of copies to 1~~ when the print instruction is the test print instruction; and

outputting the data for test print generated in said generating step saved in the storage unit to the printing apparatus together with the number of sets of copies in response to the printing apparatus instruction; and

re-generating data for printing based on the intermediate data saved in said saving step in accordance with an operating instruction after the data for test print is output in said output step.

18. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 17, wherein said program further comprises a processing step of deleting the data output ~~by~~ in said output step from said saving step when the print instruction is not the test print instruction.

19. (Original) The program according to claim 17, wherein said program further comprises a processing step of decreasing the number of sets of copies output in a test print process from the designated number of sets of copies, when the print instruction is the test print instruction.

20. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 17, ~~wherein the data stored in said saving step is intermediate data before being converted into a format to be output to the printing apparatus, and said program further comprises~~ comprising a processing step of changing a setup of an output appearance associated with the intermediate data saved in said saving step after the data for test print is output in said outputting step ~~outputs the data, when the print instruction is the test print instruction.~~

21. (Currently Amended) The program according to claim 20, wherein said program further comprises ~~a processing step of changing a setup associated with the data saved in said saving step after said outputting step outputs the data, when the print instruction is the test print instruction,~~ and a step of resetting the designated number of sets of copies for test print to an original value when the setup of the output appearance has been changed in said changing step.

22. (New) A print control apparatus for controlling a printing apparatus to print, comprising:

conversion means for converting a print command issued from an application into intermediate data;

save means for saving the intermediate data converted by said conversion means in a storage unit together with a designated number of copies;

discrimination means for discriminating if a print instruction is a test print instruction;

generation means for generating print data in accordance with the intermediate data saved by said save means; and

output means for outputting the print data generated by said generation means to the printing apparatus,

wherein said generation means generates print data for test print for which the number of copies to be printed is set to one, in accordance with the intermediate data

saved by said save means when the print instruction discriminated by said discrimination means is the test print instruction, and

said generation means re-generates print data based on the intermediate data saved by said save means in accordance with an operating instruction after the print data for test print is output by said output means.

23 (New) The apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising deletion means for deleting the data output by the output means from the storage unit when the print instruction is not the test print instruction.

24. (New) The apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising means for decreasing the number of sets of copies output in a test print process from the designated number of copies, when the print instruction is the test print instruction.

25. (New) The apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising change means for changing a setup of an output appearance associated with the intermediate data saved in the storage unit after the data for test print is output by said output means.

26. (New) The apparatus according to claim 25, further comprising means for resetting the number of copies for test print to an original value when the setup of the output appearance has been changed by the change means.